

Message Text

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67

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03 L-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

EB-11 FAA-00 CAB-09 DOTE-00 ARA-16 SY-10 DRC-01 /129 W

----- 099712

R 150001Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2288

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: UN, EC

SUBJ: INCIDENT INVOLVING AMB. BENITES AT KENNEDY AIRPORT

REF: USUN 0030

1. WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS OF BRANIFF AIRWAYS REGARDING BENITES INCIDENT. AT OUR REQUEST RAYMOND DE MURIAS, VICE-PRESIDENT FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF BRANIFF AIRWAYS, IS SENDING LETTER OF REGRET TO AMB. BENITES.

2. ACCORDING TO DE MURIAS, AMB. BENITES APPROACHED DEPARTURE GATE ACCOMPANIED BY TWO WOMEN. ONE WOMAN WAS MISS MERCEDES AGUIRE, MISSION ATTACHE. SECOND WOMAN WAS MISS RODRIGUEZ OF ECUADOREAN CONSULATE. DURING DISCUSSION OVER OPENING OF PACKAGE, MISS RODRIGUEZ IS ALLEGED TO HAVE ASKED GATE ATTENDANT, RICHARD ROMBACK, WHO HAD BEEN CALLED TO SCENE BY LOWER OFFICIALS TO "TAKE HIS HANDS OFF". MISS RODRIGUEZ IS ALSO SAID TO HAVE CALLED ROMBACH "A DIRTY AMERICAN PIG" AND KICKED HIM. AS A RESULT OF THESE ACTIONS DE MURIAS WAS VERY RELUCTANT TO SEND LETTER OF REGRET. HE BELIEVES THAT ROMBACH WAS DOING HIS JOB AND HE HAS NO INTENTION OF CRITICIZING ROMBACH FOR REQUESTING OPENING OF PACKAGE CARRIED BY BENITES UNDER TERMS OF FEDERAL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATION REGULATION

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107 OF JULY 1, 1973.

3. IN AN EFFORT TO WIND UP CASE AND TO AVOID FURTHER DIPLO-
MATIC REPRECUSIONS, HE AGREED TO SEND NOTE OF REGRET TO
BENITES. COPY OF NOTE JUST RECEIVED AND IS BEING POUCHED
TO DEPT AND QUITO.
BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, HARASSMENT, CUSTOMS COURTESIES, AIRLINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974USUNN00094
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740139/aaaableu.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USUN 0030
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <27 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INCIDENT INVOLVING AMB. BENITES AT KENNEDY AIRPORT
TAGS: PFOR, EC, UN, (BENITES)
To: QUITO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005